[8th October 1928

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, is it a fact that this Mr. Kadirvelu Nayanar, a Christian paid Missionary propagandist, was allowed to preach to Hindu prisoners including those condemned to death, in the Vellore Jail?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, Sir."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In view of the fact that I have got positive information to the contrary, will the hon. the Law Member make enquiries into the matter?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I do not think that public interests will be served by such an enquiry."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether it is a matter of absolute indifference to him whether the unfortunate Hindus who go to jail and are condemned to death should be converted to Christianity in their last moments in the jails in the interests of the missionaries who are anxious no doubt to add more to the number of converts?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, it is not a matter of indifference to Government."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Then why not the hon. the Law Member make an enquiry into the circumstances under which two unfortunate Brahmans condemned to death and counting their last moments should be exploited by Christian preachers to convert them?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because Government know as a matter of fact that they sent of their own accord for missionaries."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" May I know if Government would enquire why people who have lived up to their 60th or 65th year as Hindus should have become suddenly anxious to send for Christian missionaries unless they were induced and tempted by zealous missionary paid canvassers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is not possible for Government to say why they came to such a conclusion."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—" May I know if condemned prisoners wish to change their religion, the Government can prevent them from doing so?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Certainly not"

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" In view of the allegation that has been made that these people were really converted by the efforts of these missionary paid men, will Government undertake an enquiry?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No, the allegation is unfounded."

Remuneration to Mr. Kadirvelu Nainar, moral lecturer in Vellore Jail.

*371 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether Mr. Nainar, moral lecturer in the Vellore Jail, is a paid employee of the Local Arcot American or some other Christian missionary body?

A.—Mr. Nainar, moral lecturer, the Central Jail, Vellore, was a paid employee of the Local Arcot Mission until a few months ago.